

Tennessee Wine and Grape Board Meeting
June 3, 2020 9:30 a.m. CST
Meeting location: WebEx Webinar
Nashville, Tenn.

Meeting Minutes

(unofficial pending adoption at next scheduled meeting)

- 1) Call to order – Bill Sanderson, Board Chairman
- 2) Roll Call:

There was no physical quorum. No members of the public physically present. Board members participated electronically.
- 3) Board Members Present via WebEx webinar: Board members Absent:
Bill Sanderson, Chair Melanie Beauchamp
Rick Riddle, Vice Chair
Kix Brooks
Cary Cox
Dr. Tony Johnston
Keith Harrison
- Public Present:
Adam Acampora
Jonathon Ball
Kyle Hensley
Rob Holland
Shannon Klonowski
David Lockwood
Jay Miller
Rachel Sullivan
- 4) Preliminary Matters:
 - a) Chairman Sanderson called the meeting to order by making a motion to hold the meeting electronically. Under the open meetings law, the Wine and Grape Board establishes that, due to continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is necessary to meet electronically in the absence of a physical quorum. Rick Riddle seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call vote was taken:
Chairman Sanderson – Aye
Vice Chairman Riddle – Aye
Kix Brooks – Aye
Cary Cox – Aye
Keith Harrison – Aye
Tony Johnston – Aye
Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion passes.
All board members were present with the exception of Melanie Beauchamp.

- Agenda
 - Financial Resources Available – Shannon Klonowski, TN Department of Agriculture
 - Shannon shared with the board that the \$300,000 budget provided by the Tennessee General Assembly does have carry forward authority.
 - Shannon also shared with the board that the \$150,000 appropriated in the governor's original FY21 budget has been rescinded due to the state's budget crisis.
 - Committee reports
 - Dr. David Hughes gave his committee's report on the Analysis of Industry Trends. Dr. Hughes PowerPoint presentation is attached.
 - Rob Holland, UT Center for Profitable Agriculture, spoke in agreement with Dr. Hughes report.
 - Chairman Sanderson indicated Tennessee needs to move towards better quality wines.
 - Vice Chairman Riddle made the motion to ask UT's Center for Profitable Agriculture to work with NASS to design questions and to determine the costs associated with analysis.
Cary Cox seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken:
Chairman Sanderson – Aye
Vice Chairman Riddle – Aye
Kix Brooks – Aye
Cary Cox – Aye
Keith Harrison – Aye
Tony Johnston – Aye Ayes 6, Nays 0. Motion passes.
 - Vice Chairman Riddle presented his committee's report on Quality Assurance. PowerPoint presentation attached.
 - Vice Chairman Riddle requested \$75,000 to be spent on marketing through the Tennessee Farm and Winegrowers Alliance.
 - Vice Chairman Riddle requested \$175,000 to be spent on a laboratory at Middle Tennessee State University.
 - Quality Assurance committee will submit an updated report at the July Wine and Grape Board Meeting.
 - Quality Assurance committee will present a summary outline presentation for review by the board of the \$250,000 allocated above.
 - Cary Cox made the motion to proceed with the recommendations of the Quality Assurance Committee. Vice Chairman Rick Riddle seconded the motion. Tony Johnston recused himself from voting since he is employed by Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) and he doesn't want there to be a conflict of interest since the motion involves money being directed towards MTSU. Roll Call vote was taken.
Chairman Sanderson – Aye
Vice Chairman Riddle – Aye
Kix Brooks – Aye

Cary Cox – Aye

Keith Harrison – Aye

Ayes 6, Nays 0, Abstention 1. Motion passes.

- Bill Sanderson requested Kix Brooks accompany him to meet with Governor Lee re: Quality Assurance and the wine industry.
- New Business
 - There was no new business to discuss.
- Next Meeting:
 - July 8, 10am CST, to be held in the Holeman Building Conference Room. Lunch to be provided.
- Adjourn
 - Keith Harrison made the motion to adjourn. Cary Cox seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel L. Sullivan, Tennessee Department of Agriculture

Approved by the Tennessee Wine and Grape Board July 8, 2020.

Bill Sanderson, Chair _____